



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

November 27, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY WORK TO  
CLEAR A LANDSLIDE ON SAN GABRIEL RIVER -  
WEST FORK ROAD  
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5  
4 VOTES**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Find that the public interest and necessity demand immediate action to (1) clear a landslide that recently occurred on San Gabriel River - West Fork Road, and (2) stabilize hillside adjacent to road to ensure reliable vehicular access to Cogswell Dam and Reservoir.
2. Find that this project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. Adopt the enclosed Resolution in the form previously approved by County Counsel and, pursuant to Section 22050 of the Public Contract Code, authorize the Director of Public Works to negotiate and execute contracts on behalf of the County, in an amount not to exceed a total of \$500,000, to procure the necessary services, equipment, and supplies for the removal of landslide debris and repair of access road necessary to ensure effective operation of Cogswell Dam and appurtenant flood control facilities.

### **PURPOSE /JUSTIFICATION OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION**

This action will authorize the Director of Public Works to execute emergency contracts for the removal of rock and debris that occurred as a result of a November 12, 2002, landslide on the San Gabriel River - West Fork Road.

This road is the primary access to Cogswell Dam in addition to connecting numerous fire roads within the Angeles National Forest. The road provides critical access to the dam for County personnel and is regularly used by the United States Forest Service and other State and Federal agencies.

We are presently preparing plans to remove the landslide and repair the road and will be ready to negotiate contracts in the very near future.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This action is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence since it will preserve our ability to operate Cogswell Dam thereby providing effective flood protection to downstream improvements.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The cost of the required contract services are expected to be in the range of \$300,000 to \$500,000 depending upon the scope of work required to stabilize the hillside from future landslides. Funds are available in the Fiscal Year 2002-03 Flood Control District Budget.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Section 22050, Emergency Contracting Procedures, of the Public Contract Code provides that in the case of an emergency, a public agency, pursuant to a four-fifths vote of the governing body, may take any directly related and immediate action required by that emergency, and procure the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for those purposes, without advertising for bids prior to awarding contracts. Before taking any such action, the public agency shall make a finding, based on substantial evidence set forth in the minutes of its meeting, that the emergency will not permit a delay resulting from a competitive solicitation for bids and that the action is necessary to respond to the emergency. The governing body, by a four-fifths vote, may delegate to the Director of Public Works the authority to order any action required by that emergency.

The plans and specifications for the clearing of landslide debris and removal of rock on the San Gabriel River - West Fork Road will include the contractual provisions, workmanship standards, and equipment requirements necessary for the prosecution of this project. The contract agreements will be in the form previously approved by County Counsel.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

This work is statutorily exempt pursuant to California Public Resources Code Sections 21080(b)(2) and (4) and California State CEQA Guidelines 15269(c).

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

This work will be contracted on a negotiated basis following the compilation of a short list of qualified contractors.

The project specifications will contain provisions (1) requiring the contractors to comply with the County's Child Support Compliance Program, (2) requiring the contractors to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractors offered or gave improper consideration to County employees, and (3) requiring the contractors to comply with the requirements of the Contractor Employee Jury Service Program.

The project specifications will also contain a provision that, should the contractors require additional or replacement personnel to fill employment openings, consideration shall be given to hiring qualified participants in the County's Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

Contracting for these services will supplement County forces and expedite the necessary improvements and repairs to restore access to Cogswell Dam and the Angeles National Forest. If this work is not executed, access to and the ability to operate and maintain Cogswell Dam could be severely compromised. In addition, the US Forest Service's ability to access the Angeles National Forest and mobilize equipment and personnel in response to forest fires is significantly restricted.

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**CONCLUSION**

Please return one approved copy of this letter and resolution to the Department of Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES  
Director of Public Works

DAJ:pb

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Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO  
NEGOTIATE CONTRACTS TO CLEAR A LANDSLIDE ON SAN GABRIEL RIVER -  
WEST FORK ROAD AND TO PREPARE AND EXECUTE THESE CONTRACTS ON  
BEHALF OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Cogswell Dam and Reservoir is located on the West Fork of the San Gabriel River and provides major flood control and water conservation benefits to the downstream community, and

WHEREAS, the primary access to the dam is provided by a narrow mountain road nearly seven miles in length which is presently blocked by a landslide which occurred on November 12, 2002, following a storm which produced over 5 inches of rainfall in the vicinity of the dam, and

WHEREAS, the only other access to the dam is over a rough unpaved mountain fire road which is subject to closure during minor storms, and

WHEREAS, as a result of this landslide, dam operators and maintenance crews are not able to easily access the dam and reservoir; and

WHEREAS, reliable access to the dam during the winter months is critical to meet operational requirements during and following storms since failure to operate the dam properly could result in very serious downstream impacts, and

WHEREAS, as evidenced by the recent storms, the winter rainy season has already begun and it is imperative that reliable access be restored as soon as possible, and

WHEREAS, United States Forest Service and other State and Federal agency staff are not able to access portions of the Angeles National Forest; and

WHEREAS, the public interest and necessity demand immediate action to clear this landslide and make these repairs in order to maintain service essential to the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the clear and imminent danger will not permit a delay resulting from the competitive solicitation of bids for the services required to perform the necessary work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, the governing body of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, that (1) immediate emergency work is necessary in order to clear the landslide debris and protect access to and operation of Cogswell Dam and Reservoir, and (2) the Board hereby authorizes the Director of Public Works to negotiate contracts, without advertising for bids, for the clearing of landslide material and the corrective action necessary to stabilize the adjacent hillside from further landslides which could jeopardize access to the dam, pursuant to Section 22050 of the Public Contract Code, and to prepare and execute these contracts in the form previously approved by County Counsel on behalf of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District.

The foregoing resolution was on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002,  
adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex-officio the  
governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and  
authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS  
Executive Officer of the  
Board of Supervisors of the  
County of Los Angeles

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LLOYD W. PELLMAN  
County Counsel

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy